

ECHOES OF YESTERDAY

Summit County Centennial History

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INDEX

	Page
HISTORY OF HENEFER	47
HISTORY OF ECHO	71
HISTORY OF COALVILLE	85
HISTORY OF UPTON	137
HISTORY OF HOYTSVILLE	149
HISTORY OF WANSHIP	187
HISTORY OF ROCKPORT	199
HISTORY OF PEOA	209
HISTORY OF OAKLEY	221
HISTORY OF MARION	250
HISTORY OF KAMAS	266
HISTORY OF FRANCIS	283
HISTORY OF PARK CITY	308
HISTORY OF SNYDERVILLE	329

THE ELECTRIFICATION OF KAMAS VALLEY

This was wrought by heroic effort, which was strenuous and almost tragic. George W. Butler from the midwest, whose wife Hulda coming from Cache Valley, took the initial step, by using the power from the A. O. Johnson flour mill at mouth of Beaver Creek in about 1913. Here misfortune, with the help of a belt and pulley tore his leg away below the knee.

The source of power was next transferred to the newly constructed site a mile up the creek. Mr. Butler struggled at this location with much effort, trying to produce satisfactory lights until 1923, when a franchise was granted to Kamas Woodland Telephone Co. to operate a light and power line in Summit County. J. W. Blazzard and Moses C. Taylor supplying the capital, the duration of service was extended for approximately two years, when the Utah Power and Light Co. obtained a franchise and bought them out. This franchise is dated December 7, 1925. In the absence of reliable records in Kamas, it is generally believed that this company began to serve the Valley in 1926.

CULINARY WATER IN KAMAS

Again arriving at dates from memory of men, backed by relative happenings, etc., an attempt is made at the water story.

It is quite well established that either in 1916 or 1917, the system was installed using wooden pipes—M. N. Pack, Sr., Seth Pitt and others having the contract. In 1935 this wooden pipe was replaced by metal pipe.

During the present 1964 summer season, an enlarged and adequate system is being installed. This commendable accomplishment is being done under supervision of Mayor Gordon B. Taylor with councilmen Demont Lott, Norman Hoyt, Harold Anderson, and Reed Smithies, Phyllis Lewis, Clerk, Elmo Atkinson, Marshall.

Francis is also to be congratulated for likewise installing a water system. Those leading out in this are Mayor Walt Prescott, with councilmen Foy Mitchell, Warren McNiel, Clarence Bates, and Ronald Jacobson.

The year 1963 saw natural gas brought to Peoa, Oakley, Marion, Kamas, Francis, Park City, and Heber City at Uinta's west end.

FISH HATCHERIES

Kamas Hatchery

The Fish and Game Department have two hatcheries within the confines of the Uintas. The Kamas Hatchery, located three miles above Kamas on Beaver Creek, was constructed in 1930. W. N. Jacklin was first superintendent. He was followed by William Halliday. Next was Session Hatch, who was followed by Richard Goodworth, the present superintendent.

Whiterocks Hatchery

Attempt was made by Commissioner R. H. Siddoway in 1918-1920 to install a fish hatchery at Whiterocks. However, nothing was accomplished until 1921 or 1922 when Commissioner Dave Madsen installed a 1,500,000 capacity hatchery there. It was enlarged several times after 1940 by Marion Madsen, then State Fish Culture Expert.

Records show that some of this work was furnished by W.P.A. and that the State purchased the site from the Indians in 1946.

Hatchery Superintendents: Jay Larsen, Frank Griffin, Hal Peterson (short time), and Max North (now in charge).



WARD
UPON THE MOUNTAINS



FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Mr. Richardson owned the store until the time he was drafted into world war one. At that time he sold out to T. A. Atkinson, who sold to Alph McNeil; then Alph sold to Geo. Atkinson and for a while John Joseph and Sam Maulouf rented it.

In 1936 the old store was torn down and a neat new store now stands in its place. It was owned by Pearl Atkinson and Wm. Thomas, Mr. Thomas being the manager.

It was called "Crossroads Grocery." In it one could buy gas, oil, notions, confections, beer, and light lunch.

When war was declared in 1941 Mr. Thomas went to work in a defense plant at Provo and left the store to the care of his wife and Mrs. Atkinson. Because of the difficulty in obtaining groceries the store was closed in 1943. When it was opened again in 1945 it was under the management of Theron Atkinson and his mother, Pearl Atkinson. Today Mrs. Atkinson owns and manages the store herself and business is growing everyday.

The country store was the gathering place for the men to congregate and discuss the happenings of the times,—of the community, state, and nation. At one time or another all the world has been discussed and a remedy, advocated. Many a bet has been made concerning whose horse could pull the most; who possessed greater physical strength, etc. The men still gather at the country store and hold heir public forums.

"HISTORY OF WOODLAND RURAL COMMUNITY."

Woodland rural community is located on the upper Provo River, at Woodland, Utah, in the south part of the Summit County. The community is scattered through a wooded valley, covering a distance of six miles in length and one mile in width. The elevation is 6,850 feet. It is surrounded by hills on all sides, covered with all kinds of green foliage during the growing season. The soil is a heavy loam soil, some parts are inclined to be sandy. The Provo River runs directly through the center of the valley, and furnishes the irrigation needs and water supply for the people of this community. There are many channels and side streams that take off from the main river and flow through the outskirts of the valley. This also helps in irrigation of considerable land. The climate of the valley is very mild in the summer season, but during the

winter months there is an everage of two feet of snow. Spring work never starts until the first of May, due to the freezing conditions and to the amount of snow that falls during the winter period. The community is made up mostly of farmers and stock-raisers.

This community was settled by pioneers who were sent out from Salt Lake in 1867 to settle the valley between the Provo River and the Weber River. The first settlers entered the "Woodland alley" in 1867. There were ten families who moved in at this time. The names of the families are as follows; Riley Green, Than Galloway, George Fraughton, James Lewis, Heber Mitchell, Henry Moon, John J. Thayne, Samuel Gines, Thomas Potts, James Knight and George Ellis. All of these families belonged to the Mormon church, and had pioneered their way across the continent and settled here in Utah. As soon as they arrived they began clearing land and building their homes. Each one built a log cabin on the tract of land that he had homesteaded. They began tilling the soil and fencing their property, because poles were plentiful and it required very little time. Some of these old fences are still standing in this community today. The majority have been replaced by modern fences.

Woodland was set off as a ward by Daniel H. Wells, second counsellor to Brigham Young. They held their meeting in a two room log cabin of Heber Mitchell. They could not decide to name this ward, Wells suggested that it be called Woodland, because the valley was practically covered with large cottonwood trees. They were all in favor of having the place named Woodland. In the spring of 1868 five more families moved into the valley, giving the ward a total of fifteen families. Up until this time the people had been holding their cottage meetings and church services in the school house.

The peolpe decided to build a church house and use it for amusement, also. The building was constructed of round timbers and the cracks in the walls were plastered with mud. The building served both as a church and for amusements. It was in about 1875 that a post office was established in Woodland, Thomas Potts being the first postmaster. Up until



FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

133



WARD

UPON THE MOUNTAINS

this time the people had to go to Kamas, a settlement five miles north of Woodland, after their mail. Thomas Potts was the first man in Woodland to subscribe for a newspaper. When one wanted to find out the news, he would come to Mr. Potts to read or to borrow the paper. The next man to take the postoffice was a new settler by the name of Robert Mitchie. After Mr. Mitchie had taken over the postoffice he subscribed for a newspaper. There were two newspapers serving as reading material for fifteen families. A settler by the name of Abner Keeler, was the first man to operate a merchandise store in this community. He would exchange merchandise for timber or farm produce, whatever one had.

The chief industry at this time was timbering. There was a great demand for mining timbers, so the settlers worked in the hills in the winter months getting out these round poles, called "mining timber". They would haul them to Park City to the mines during spare time in the summer months. In two or three years all of the mining timber was cleared out of this district. This made the people seek another line of work. Hyrum Rose started a water mill on the south fork of the Provo River. The settlers began getting out larger timbers, having them sawed into lumber. They would haul the lumber to Park City and Salt Lake and dispose of it, taking store pay.

The first steam sawmill was bought into this country about 1878 by J. O. Swift. The people of Woodland had to build a wider dugway down into the valley, that they might get the saw mill into it. The dugway was built by Samuel Gines place and was called the "Gines dugway". This same dugway is being used today. From the time that the first steam sawmill was brought into this country 1878 until 1885 was a period of lumbering. Many saw mills were brought into this valley. During this period the timber was practically all cleared out of the section.

During this period of lumbering and timber work the people of Woodland engaged in making the railroad ties and bringing them to Provo for sale to the railroad companies. They would go into the hills during the winter months and cut timber and make ties, then they would haul them to some large stream or fork of the Provo River. The "tie drives"

would start about May 15 and last for about one month, during the high water period. They would station the camps about every five miles apart, along the river, and a certain number of men were stationed at each camp to take care of the ties along their section of the river. By these methods they transported the ties to Provo with very little expense.

During the period from 1878 to 1885 Woodland community had prospered in many ways. In 1868 the city had fifteen families, at this time 1885 there were forty families. They had secured lumber and had built themselves suitable and good looking homes,—many of them still being used by descendants of the settlers. There is only one of the one room log cabins still standing. It is being used as a chicken coop by L. E. Moon, nephew of Henry Moon, one of the first settlers in the valley. The people had cleared a large spread of land and were tilling the soil and making some of their living in this way. They had done away with their ox teams and heavy ox wagons. They had entered into a new period.

There was a decided change. In the year 1890 a new church was erected, west of the Abner Keeler store. It was a frame structure, used for church and amusement combined. 1906 the ward decided to move both school houses together. They were moved to the present site where our new modern school stands. There, they housed eight grades; four in each building with a staff of two teachers. In 1913 our new modern three school house made of cement blocks was erected by John Salmon of Coalville.

Between 1885 and 1913 Woodland ward had expanded its way of living. The proceeds from farming and livestock raising were its main source of income; with approximately 60 families living within its boundaries. In the year 1913 the South Summit high school started which afforded the boys and girls of Woodland a chance to further their education by traveling six miles to Kamas.

In Nov 1922, the Woodland church and amusement house burned to the ground. The ward was forced to hold church services in the school house. In the summer of 1923 the present L.D.S. church was erected. It is made of cement blocks and is modern in every respect, even to rest rooms. Woodland ward



WARD

UPON THE MOUNTAINS



FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

has enjoyed much prosperity since 1930. Salt Lake City expanded its fluid milk area to Kamas valley. Practicallly every resident of Woodland is engaged in Dairying; shipping fluid milk to Salt Lake City which pay 30 to 40% more than the old butter prices.

Woodland L.D.S. ward is in the South Summit Stake of Summit County. Practicallly evry resident of the ward is a member of the L.D.S. church. They all take pride in keeping their homes and surroundings looking neat, clean, and well painted. Woodland is a summer resort for vacationists. Woodland has two groups of summer homes; Sunny Brook and Pine Spring Park. Camp Killcare is a Summer Resort.

The foregoing information was obtained from Mr. James Lewis, who was the last survivor of the first settler of Woodland.

PARK CITY

President Abraham Lincoln once said, "Utah will yet become the treasure house of the nation," and Park City has most certainly done her share in making that prophecy come true. We cannot tell the history of Park City without writing of the beginning of mining in Utah.

In reviewing the colonization and settlement of the original colonies of the United States, the attempts made by men seeking riches failed; while those made for finding homes where freedom could be enjoyed were successful and became the foundation of our country. So, in settling Utah, our pioneer ancestors, who were seeking homes and safety from intolerance and persecution, were told to till the soil; to build homes; to found industries necessary to sustain life; and to leave the search for mineral wealth until these essential requirements were met.

The beginning of metal mining in Utah can be attributed to General Connor who with a troop of United States Soldiers came to Salt Lake City from California in 1862 to look after some Indian trouble. They established a camp on the bench, east of the city. His probable reasons for exploring for minerals were: First—he desired an influx of gentiles, and second—the sight of the mountains and hints of ore revived the fever of 1849. A Mr. Ogilvie and others logging in the

canyons southwest of Salt Lake City found a piece of ore which they sent to General Connor who had it assayed. Finding it to be paying ore, a party of soldiers went to the canyons and the Jordan mine was located. General Connor gave a furlough to many of the soldiers and sent them into the hills to prospect. This was in the fall of 1863.

Paying ore was found in Rush Valley but the composition of the ore and the cost of transportation made it imperative to undertake domestic reduction. The first smelter in Utah was built by General Connor in 1864 but it was not suited to the reduction of ore in that locality; and because of the remoteness of the country and the great cost of reduction the venture failed. However, it emphasized the need for transportation, and miners impatiently awaited the coming of the Union Pacific Railroad. Knowing that the territory contained rich ore, prospecting went on and claims were taken up but attention turned to the Wasatch Mountains.

In the summer of 1864, silver-bearing rock was found in the Wasatch Range by General Connor at the head of Little Cottonwood Canyon. The Mountain Lake Mining District covering the backbone of the Wasatch between Provo River and Weber Canyon was established. For several years, because of the reasons given, little was done to develop those regions. The first shipment of ore from the Wasatch Range, a carload of galena from the Walker Bros. claims, was made in July, 1868.

During the next two years the completion of the Union Pacific, and Utah Central Railroad between Ogden and Salt Lake City, furnished the second requirement for complete development of the natural resources of this region—transportation. The famous Emma mine at Alta and the rich Ophir district were well opened and had shown that the mineral deposits of this part of the state were really valuable. The pioneer settlers could supply food from the farms they had developed and now there was transportation. These considerations soon brought an influx of the old pioneer class of prospectors from Nevada, California, Idaho and Colorado, who scattered through the Wasatch Mountains. Prospectors spread into Big Cottonwood and American Fork Can-